

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 19663 252304Z

ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 MMO-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 CA-01

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6553

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY QUITO

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, HV, MX

SUBJECT: VISIT OF HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT: CERP 0002

1. THE HUNGARIAN PRESIDENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COUNCIL, PAL LOSONCZI, MADE A STATE VISIT TO MEXICO NOV 9-16, THE FIRST SUCH HIGH LEVEL EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES SINCE RELATIONS WERE ESTABLISHED IN 1975. ALTHOUGH MUCH OF THE VISIT WAS OF A CEREMONIAL NATURE, SEVERAL AGREEMENTS WERE NEGOTIATED AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS DISCUSSED IN SOME DETAIL. LOSONCZI INVITED PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO TO VISIT HUNGARY AND JLP ACCEPTED IN PRINCIPLE.

2. UNDER THE BASIC SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT ALREADY EXISTING BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, TWO SUB-AGREEMENTS WERE SIGNED - ONE TO BRING INTO EXISTENCE A MIXED COMMISSION AND ONE TO FINANCE A PROGRAM OF EXCHANGES. ALSO AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WAS REACHED TO NEGOTIATE A CONSULAR CONVENTION.

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3. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, TALK OF INCREASING MEXICAN-HUNGARIAN TRADE (\$15 MILLION US ANNUALLY) PREDOMINATED. HUNGARY WISHES TO BUY MEXICAN PRIME MATERIALS IN EXCHANGE FOR ITS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS. AS IS THE PATTERN WITH EVERY VISITING OFFICIAL TO MEXICO THESE DAYS, LOSONCZI STATED THAT HUNGARY WOULD LIKE TO BUY MEXICAN OIL, BUT HE POINTED

OUT THAT THE COST OF SHIPPING WOULD HAVE TO BE ELIMINATED COMPLETELY FOR MEXICAN OIL TO COMPETE IN THE HUNGARIAN MARKET WITH SOVIET OIL.

4. REFERENCE WAS ALSO MADE IN OFFICIAL EXCHANGES TO HUNGARIAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO MEXICO AND FUTURE JOINT INVESTMENTS. HOWEVER, THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE OF THE TWO PRESIDENTS EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR "MUTUAL BENEFIT" IN ECONOMIC RELATIONS, AND, BASED ON THE PATTERN OF BLOC COUNTRIES' ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH MEXICO, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT ANYTHING MORE THAN BARTER WILL EXIST BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES FOR THE NEAR FUTURE.

5. THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE ALSO TOUCHED ON POLITICAL THEMES EMPHASIZING CONCIDENCE OF MEXICAN AND HUNGARIAN POSITIONS ON DISARMAMENT, ON THE NEED FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER, AND ON OPPOSITION TO APARTHEID. IN INFORMAL CONTACTS WITH THE PRESS, LOSONCZI PRAISED BREZHNEV'S LATEST MOVES ON DISARMAMENT AND DENIED IMPLICATIONS THAT HUNGARY WAS IN ANY WAY DEPENDENT ON THE USSR. HE DEPARTED ON NOV 14 IN HIS CHARTERED AEROFLOT ILLUSHIN JET. LUCEY

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